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In the battle to protect the Air Force network and the vital information passing through its infostructure, quality training and best practices are the key to Information Assurance.

HO USAFE's IA Branch strives to find and provide the best tools and training the Air Force's IA Professionals need to be defenders of the domain.

In this fast-paced world of ever changing technology, the challenge to provide a standardized yet flexible training environment addressing IA education, training and awareness is difficult. However, the Defense Information Systems Agency Field Security Operations office provides a solution that all IA professionals can use. DISA/FSO provides a standard course for IA Professionals. The course Information Assurance Policy and Technology covers System Modes, Workstation Security, Network Security, Identification and Reporting

procedures, as well as Protecting and Managing information systems. In the future, upon successful completion of the course, the students receive their Level 1 Department of Defense certification. This certification is retroactive once the DoD Directive 8570, IA Certification Standards within the DoD IA workforce, is approved.

EUCOM sponsors the course and provides free training twice a year at Patch Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany. In addition, HQ USAFE NOSC located at Ramstein AB, Germany, will sponsor the course in September this year. For those who can not attend this course in residence, there is an IAP&T Computer Based Training CD provided by DISA, also at no cost. People who are interested can contact DISA to request the course by going to the Web at: http://iase.disa.mil/eta/.

Training for IA positions isn't just a good idea; it is mandated by the DoD. DoD Instruction 8500.2 Information Assurance Implementation states, "All personnel performing IA functions

Available training

Interested in learning more about IAP&T training? Visit the DISA site at: http://iase.disa.mil/eta.For the IAP&T course at Stuttgart, contact Master Sgt. Jon Jefferson at jeffersj@eucom .mil and for the IAP&T course at Ramstein, contact Master Sgt. Karin Anderson at: karin.anderson

must satisfy both preparatory and sustaining DoD standard training and certification requirements as a condition of privileged access to any DoD information system." The DISA/FSO provides an excellent IA training opportunity to fulfill this requirement.

In short, the IAP&T course strives to be the most all encompassing IA training available and warrants use as a standardized training tool. In the near future, the revised USAFE Supplement to AFI33-202 will mandate the DISA IAP&T training for any IA specialist tasked with IA duties.